More powers to Tribal Gram Panchayats

2036. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are many Tribal Gram Panchayats in various States after the Gram Sabha Year in 1999-2000;

(b) if so, the number of such Panchayats, State-wise;

(c) whether these Panchayats have any power to enforce their decision on existing officials and administrative system;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, whether more rights for enforcing the decision especially on health, education, agriculture, power and law and order would be granted to these Panchayats through legislation?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS(SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) The Government of India declared 1999-2000 as the 'Year of the Gram Sabha' in recognition of the centrality of the Gram Sabha in the Panchayati Raj System. Gram Panchayats are constituted after completion of Panchayat elections in various States/UTs including Schedule-V areas.

(b) The information is being collected.

(c) and (d) Gram Sabha and Panchayats including Gram Panchayats in Schedule-V areas have been vested with powers under the Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Area) Act, 1999, to-(i) approve development plans (ii) select beneficiaries (iii) be consulted in land acquisition (iv) manage minor water bodies (v) control minor mineral leases (vi) regulate/Prohibit sale of intoxicants (vii) prevent alienation of land and restore unlawfully alienated land of persons belonging to the Scheduled Tribes (viii) manage village markets (ix) control money lending to STs (x) ownership of Minor Forest Produce, and (xi) control institutions and functionaries in all social sectors.

These powers have been devolved to Panchayats including Panchayats in Schedule-V areas by the States in varying degrees, by amending the State Acts/Law on the relevant subjects.

(e) Article 243 G of the Constitution empowers the State Legislatures to devolve powers upon Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs). So far, the

States have devolved powers upon Panchayats including Panchayats in Scheduled V Areas in varying degrees. The Central Government have been urging the States and UTs in this behalf including through high level discussions. Based on a resolution adopted in the All India Panchayat Adhyakshas Sammelan held in April, 2002 at New Delhi, the State Governments and UT Administrations have been advised to devolve funds, functions and functionaries by the end of December 2002.

Grants to Girls Educational complexes in Madhya Pradesh

†2037. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the districts in Madhya Pradesh having tribal women literacy where Girls Educational Complexes are running and since when;

(b) the names of the institutions in respect of which grants have not been sanctioned, so far, despite Collector's and State Government's recommendations in the matter;

(c) whether cent per cent grant is given to the said institutions by Government;

(d) if so, the details of norms followed in sanctioning of grants;

(e) whether there is any time limit for sanctioning these grants; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) The district-wise and year-wise details of Educational Complexes sanctioned in Madhya Pradesh are at Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) The names of the institutions is at Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The institutions are provided with financial assistance @ Rs.9000/- per student per annum towards recurring expenses. Besides, an additional amount of Rs.1000/-per student for five years is also given to new students for purchase of utensils and bedding material, as non-recurring expenses. Further, an amount ranging between Rs.4000/- P.M. and Rs.10,000/- P.M.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.